

**Remarks**

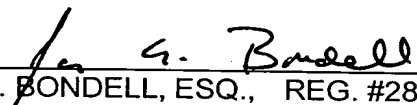
The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the claims in proper form for fee calculation purposes and to correct minor formal matters.

Respectfully submitted,

**CUSTOMER NO. 022831**  
SCHWEITZER CORNMAN GROSS & BONDELL LLP  
Attorneys For Applicant  
292 Madison Avenue – 19<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
(646)424-0770

JAB/cw

BY

  
JAY A. BONDELL, ESQ., REG. #28,188

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 223131450, on April 28, 2004.

Carol L. Wood, Sender

